

V. Plan Implementation

The MDC/DWM staff will implement the policies, control measures, activities, and programs cited in this Plan beginning in 2004. Resource constraints will control the implementation schedule for many of the activities. In general, Plan implementation strategies will include the following steps:

- Maintaining, improving, and adding structural access controls and signs, as needed;
- Monitoring, enforcement, and corrective actions;
- Providing educational programs and opportunities to promote watershed protection;
- Partnering initiatives with local groups, town entities, State Police, state agencies, and others; and
- Conducting Plan evaluation and modification, as necessary.

A. Structural and Access Controls

Structural and access controls are in place on much of the MDC/DWM lands in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed. These gates and barriers restrict access to sensitive locations and provide controlled points for public access. Improvements are needed, however, to further enhance these controls. Initial efforts will focus on improving access restrictions around the Wachusett Reservoir; similar work will subsequently be incorporated in areas that are more distant from the Reservoir. There are several ways that MDC/DWM will improve security on its property, including:

- Replacing existing gates and other barriers where vehicular access can be gained illegally;
- Installing a new lock system on MDC gates; and
- Instituting a numbering system for all gates outside the main Reservoir basin.

In addition to preventing improper access, the Division will further encourage appropriate access and enhance public safety by providing parking and entry points in the more heavily used areas. Establishing parking areas and entry points will provide the opportunity to distribute educational information while limiting inappropriate access points. Focused entry points will also allow staff to better control public access and monitor users at each location.

Entry points in heavily used areas have been identified for improvements or development. They are listed in order of priority in Table 6. These areas are intentionally located near public roadways so that they can be easily monitored by Watershed Rangers and police.

Table 6: Structural and Access Controls Actions

Site	Action
Route 110 near Campground Road (gate 30 area)	Construct small parking area and realign Gate 30 roadway
Route 12/140 near the Railroad Bridge (gate 25)	Construct small parking area at gate and move gate
Route 140 near MA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (Gate 19)	Construct small parking area at gate and move gate
Route 70 near Cross Street	Construct small parking area at gate and move gate
River Rd. and Mill St.	Construct access barriers
Newell Hill Rd. Extension	Construct access barriers

B. Signs

A great deal of effort was dedicated to improving signs in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed since publication of the existing Access Plan. Signs currently in place around the Wachusett Reservoir watershed use universal symbols to identify allowed and prohibited activities on MDC/DWM property (see p. 33 for examples). There are additional improvements needed to the signs within the Wachusett Reservoir watershed. Some new signs will be required to reflect changes in this plan. Signs will also be installed that encourage the use of sani-cans.

In addition to rules signs, there is also the need for increased user education. One way this will be accomplished is through additional bulletin boards or kiosks. These structures provide MDC a place to post notices, information about alternative recreation sites, and general public education material. These bulletin boards will be added at key entry points, in particular at new parking areas; other locations for bulletin boards will also be evaluated.



Examples of MDC/DWM Bulletin Boards in the Wachusett Reservoir Watershed.



C. Mapping

There is an existing need for improved public access maps of the Division's properties in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed. Throughout the 1990s, the Division developed sophisticated GIS capabilities, which will allow for development of better maps for the public. Such maps will show existing hiking and/or bicycling trails, hunting areas, locations of parking facilities, and other major access points. Any map produced by the MDC/DWM will clearly demarcate the restricted areas on its property. A fishing map is in development with the assistance of a user's group. MDC/DWM will also develop and distribute a Bicycling Trail Map, including the entire Rail-Trail.

D. Enforcement

Watershed Rangers are trained educators who work to identify violations and educate the public on watershed regulations (**see Appendix B**). While not always necessary, there are times when the rangers must rely on police to enforce these regulations. This cooperative system of education and police enforcement has worked effectively in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed. The relationship with the State Police continues to be cooperative and effective. The Holden Barracks has been willing to support the mission of the Division from the top officials to the troopers assigned on a daily basis. They are the primary enforcement officials for violations on the Division's properties. In addition, the Environmental Police provide rules enforcement for environmental regulations across the state including in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed. Local police have historically worked well with MDC/DWM on issues of mutual concern in the watershed communities. All of these relationships are critical to the enforcement of MDC/DWM rules and regulations. MDC will meet regularly with State, Environmental and local Police to ensure and enhance coordination on enforcement issues.

The general public can be an effective tool in identifying and reporting improper and illegal activities on MDC/DWM properties. While recognizing the importance of private citizens' watchful presence, the MDC encourages individuals to notify the appropriate authorities rather than attempting to resolve any rules infraction on their own. MDC/DWM has made contact numbers of MDC and the State Police available on signs and brochures for reporting suspicious activities. These have proven to be effective tools in identifying illegal or improper activities on MDC properties. MDC/DWM will continue to provide this contact information in appropriate public places.

E. Public Education/Interpretive Services

Watershed protection is most effective when public access management is complemented by public education. Public education provides information not only on rules and regulations, but also a demonstration of why the rules are needed for resource protection. Successful resource protection education programs instill a feeling of stewardship in users and promote self-monitoring behaviors in user groups.

Public education can be divided into two major categories: direct and indirect contact. Printed information, usually through signs, bulletin boards, or pamphlets, is the stalwart of indirect contact (bulletin boards and kiosks are discussed in Section B, above).

Direct contact information can take many forms. Watershed Rangers speaking informally with users while patrolling MDC/DWM property is one of the Division's most effective forms of public education. These interactions allow staff to answer specific questions, identify improper activities, and immediately inform the visitor the reasons why any particular use is restricted. School programs allow MDC staff to speak directly with students in their school setting about proper use of the property and general resource protection issues. These programs also provide the opportunity to distribute printed information to students and their families. Other public programs include guided tours and hikes on MDC property focused on resource protection topics, and staff participation, through booths or displays promoting proper stewardship of the Commonwealth's lands and resources, at public events such as town fairs. Each of these direct contact processes is part of MDC's overall education strategy, as staff time and resources permit.

F. Sanitation

MDC/DWM will evaluate moving existing sani-cans or providing additional sani-cans at sites that might receive more use. Potential sites include Gate 25, Gate 35/36, Steel Bridge, Gate 22, Gate 8, and Gate 14.

G. Encroachments

The following is a list of the types of encroachments that have been discovered on MDC property:

- 💧 Water and Soil Impairment
 - dumping of debris and hazardous materials
 - storage of hazardous materials
- 💧 Forest and Land Destruction
 - cutting, removal and damage of trees and plants
 - disturbance or removal of soil and ground cover
 - paving or covering of soil and ground cover
 - grading or filling land
- 💧 Construction
 - installation of fences
 - construction of sheds, walls, signs and buildings
- 💧 Boundary Destruction
 - removal or destruction of stone and concrete bounds, iron pipes and witness trees

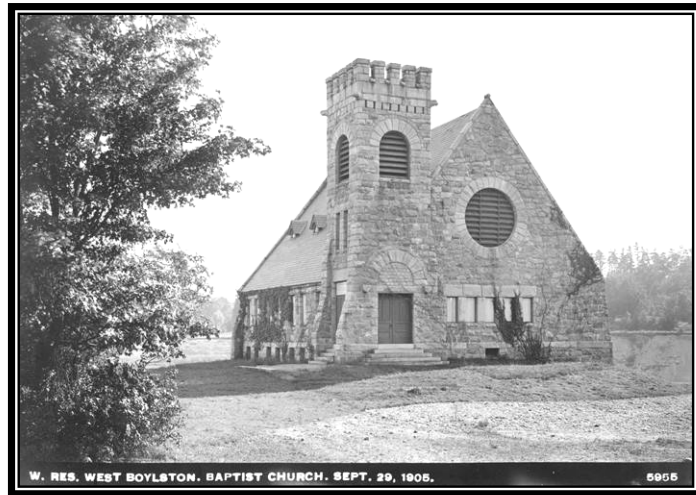
The MDC/DWM Natural Resources Section is responsible for resolving encroachments. Since 1989, 19 encroachments have been discovered and resolved. Most resolutions occur through a series of letters following field investigation. Rarely has court action been required.

In order to reduce the number of encroachments, it is recommended that all new land purchases be surveyed prior to purchase unless recently recorded survey plans for the land exist. Watershed Rangers will continue to monitor MDC lands for encroachments and make referrals to the Natural Resources Section for resolution.

H. Specific Site Recommendations

1. Old Stone Church

MDC/DWM Watershed Rangers will continue their presence at this site. The Division will also continue to provide trash barrels (rather than Carry in/Carry out policy) and a Sani-can. Considerations will be made on construction of permanent toilet facilities for this area.



2. Bob's Hot Dogs

MDC/DWM will ask MHD to evaluate safety issues at the site and make any needed pedestrian or traffic safety improvements.

3. Rail Trail

MDC/DWM will continue to support the work of Wachusett Greenways where appropriate. MDC/DWM is willing to consider working relationships with similar trail groups where the mission supports MDC/DWM's overall goals. The Superintendent will continue to participate on the Mass Central Rail Trail Task Force. There are a number of issues that need to be addressed on an on-going basis including enforcement of MDC/DWM regulations on these trails, parking facilities at trailheads, and minor maintenance needs due to use, including erosion and access off of the trail.

4. Waushacum Ponds

MDC/DWM will work to educate users on proper trash disposal. Signs and informational materials, as well as ranger presence, will all aid in limiting trash impact. Clarification is needed on the allowed boating uses in this zone. Current policy refers to "car top boats only." This should be clarified to "boats up to 14 feet in length." No inflatable boats will be allowed. Boat motors are limited to electric motors only. The MDC/DWM is supporting Wachusett Greenways, who is improving the trail along the old rail bed from Gates Road to the Sterling Millworks (a portion of which is MDC/DWM property). The trail will be for pedestrian and bike travel only. Work on the trail will restore the bridge over the Quag and will restore some of the eroded areas leading to the shoreline.

5. Poutwater Pond

The MDC will work to limit the illegal ATV and snowmobile activity in this area through increased enforcement and barrier placement.

I. Partnerships

The primary mission of the MDC Division of Watershed Management is the protection of the water supply. Public access, while allowed, is secondary to water supply and resource protection. Because the Division's resources are focused on watershed protection, partnering with other organizations is an important tool to gain appropriate public access to these properties, while limiting impact on the Division's staff and funding resources. Such partnerships have developed since the inception of the 1996 Plan.

The most notable example is the Division's partnership with Wachusett Greenways, Inc. (WG). WG is a non-profit organization, "working to expand a network of trails and open spaces linking our communities. We regularly meet to build and maintain trails, improve open spaces, and reach out to the six towns we serve to promote sustainable and environmentally-sensitive use of green spaces" (taken from WG webpage). The Division participates in the WG Rail Trail Task Force and has a Memorandum of Agreement with WG to promote appropriate use of trails on MDC properties. Benefits to the MDC/DWM include focusing recreational use to this well developed and maintained trail network and conserving the agency's limited staff time and funds by developing and maintaining the trails through volunteers, public grants and private fundraising. WG avidly supports the MDC's water quality protection goals and works to promote environmentally accepted use of the Commonwealth's resources.

The MDC/DWM will continue to foster such relationships when the activities and locations are in keeping with this Public Access Plan Update or future plans and policies of the Commission, and where the Division can be assured that proper administration is in place to provide development and maintenance in perpetuity.

J. Open Space Coordination

1. Department of Environmental Management

The Department of Environmental Management (DEM) operates the state's parks and forests. There are two significant DEM facilities in the northern part of the Wachusett Reservoir watershed, Wachusett Mountain Reservation and Leominster State Forest. DEM has also published a strategic plan, Shaping Our Future: A Strategic Agenda for the Department of Environmental Management, which is available on-line at www.state.ma.us/dem/docs/stratplan.pdf.

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation: The 3,000-acre Wachusett Mountain State Reservation contains a wealth of natural resources and provides many recreational opportunities. The Reservation's natural resources include the largest known area of Old Growth Forest east of the Connecticut River in Massachusetts, with trees dating over 350 years old. The Reservation offers 17 miles of hiking and walking trails, including 3.9 miles of the

Midstate Trail. Wachusett Mountain is part of an extensive greenway area, including Leominster State Forest, Massachusetts Audubon's Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary and Minns Wildlife Sanctuary. The Visitor's Center at the summit is a short distance from the Wachusett Mountain Ski Area, the largest ski facility in eastern Massachusetts.

Leominster State Forest: Leominster State Forest is a 4,300-acre parcel of forested land, located in the five towns of Westminster, Princeton, Leominster, Fitchburg and Sterling in North Central Massachusetts. The forest offers recreational opportunities year round, ranging from mountain biking and swimming in the summer to cross country skiing and snowmobiling in the winter.

2. Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Law Enforcement

The Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Law Enforcement (DFWELE) is the state agency responsible for managing and conserving the state's fisheries and wildlife, including rare and endangered species. The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) works to conserve and manage the Commonwealth's wildlife heritage by offering expertise and assistance, addressing issues involving wildlife and habitat, and ensuring that people understand and comply with laws designed to protect our populations of wild plants and animals. MassWildlife holds 102 Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and 13 wildlife sanctuaries across the state. All WMAs are open to hunting, fishing, trapping and other outdoor recreation activities; sanctuaries are more restrictive.

There are two significant MassWildlife properties in the Wachusett Reservoir Watershed, **Poutwater Pond WMA** and **Minn's Wildlife Sanctuary**. There is a description of Poutwater Pond Nature Preserve (comprised of MDC and MassWildlife lands) in Section IV. The 138 acre Minn's Wildlife Sanctuary in Princeton does not allow hunting; it does contain a trail that climbs to the top of Little Wachusett Mt. and connects to the MA Audubon Wachusett Meadow Sanctuary.

3. Nonprofit and Other Private Landowners

Massachusetts Audubon Society: Massachusetts Audubon Society is the largest conservation organization in New England, protecting more than 29,000 acres of conservation land, conducting educational programs for children and adults, and advocating for sound environmental policies at the local, state, and federal levels. Mass Audubon maintains 41 wildlife sanctuaries that are open to the public. The Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary provides eleven miles of trails over more than 1,000 acres at the base of Wachusett Mountain in Princeton.

Land Trusts: Land Trusts are local, independent nonprofit organizations that work with landowners who want to protect open land for conservation, recreation, and other public benefit. Land trusts may acquire land through donation or purchase, or hold conservation restrictions on private property. There are several active Land Trusts in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed, including: White Oak Land Conservation Society, North County Land

Trust, Princeton Land Trust, Sterling Land Trust, and West Boylston Land Trust. Some already own land, such as White Oak's 600 acres in Holden and Rutland, while others are still organizing their resources. Each Land Trust has its own access rules.

Sportsmen's Clubs: There are five Sportsmen's Clubs in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed: Norco, Nimrod, Eight Point, North County Fox 'n Coon, and Leominster. All are private organizations that provide their members a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Golf Courses: There are four private golf courses in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed – Mt. Pleasant Country Club and Cyprian Keyes in Boylston, Holden Hills Country Club in Holden, and Wachusett Country Club in West Boylston. Use of the facilities is limited to members and member's guests.

Chapter 61: Provisions under MGL chs. 61, 61A and 61B provide significant tax benefits to local property owners willing to make long term commitments to (respectively) forestry, agriculture or recreation. An owner of ten contiguous acres of forested land managed under a 10 year forest management certified by the State may receive a 95% abatement on the land's property tax under ch. 61. An owner of at least five contiguous acres of land actively devoted to agricultural or horticultural use is eligible for reduced taxes under the ch. 61A provisions. Ch. 61B provides tax relief to owners of at least five contiguous acres of land that are maintained in a substantially natural, wild or open condition or maintained in a landscaped condition permitting the preservation of wildlife and natural resources or land used for certain recreational purposes that is open to the public or members of a non-profit organization.

In exchange for these tax benefits, the city or town in which the land is located is given the right to recover the abatements afforded the owner and an option to purchase the property should the land be sold or used for any purpose other than for forestry (ch. 61), agriculture (ch. 61A), or open space/recreational use (ch. 61B). Land designated under the Chapter 61 programs remains private property; any public access for recreation is solely at the discretion of the landowner.

MDC Conservation Restrictions: A conservation restriction (CR; also called a conservation easement) is a legal agreement property owners make to restrict the type and amount of development that may take place on their property. A property owner agrees to sell or donate limited rights to their property to a state or non-profit land conservation agency. The landowner remains the owner and retains all rights to ownership except those described in the conservation restriction. There are both conservation and monetary advantages to landowners who sell or donate CRs. The CR restricts development by either the landowners or the purchasing organization. In essence, landowners are paid not to develop their property. After the sale of a CR, the property is assessed at a lower value due to its development restrictions, which in turn can reduce the landowner's property taxes and estate taxes. If the CR is donated for conservation purposes, it may also generate an income tax deduction. Once all the legal processes are completed, land placed under the CR is privately owned open space protected from future development. (MDC, Downstream #7, 2002)

The MDC/DWM currently holds 30 CRs in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed, totaling 2,003 acres. Most CR owners are individuals, although the MDC has acquired CRs from sportsman's

clubs, golf courses, and municipalities.

The policies outlined in this Plan are solely for land owned by the MDC. The purchase of a Conservation Restriction by the MDC does not give the public any rights to access the property. ***Public access on MDC Conservation Restrictions is solely at the discretion of the landowner.***

4. Watershed Communities

Each community within the Wachusett Reservoir watershed is responsible for the development, implementation and updating of their town's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The adoption of a local Open Space Plan is necessary for the town to be eligible to receive Self-Help funds from EOEa's Division of Conservation Services (DCS). In order to maintain eligibility for these funds, Open Space plans are required to be updated every five years. The following is the status of local Open Space planning, as of November, 2002, according to DCS:

Town	Open Space Plan Status	Town	Open Space Plan Status	Town	Open Space Plan Status
Boylston	Expired	Leominster	Valid until August 2005	Sterling	Valid until December 2007
Clinton	Valid until August 2005	Paxton	Expired; Update submitted June 2003	West Boylston	Valid until December 2007
Holden	Valid until December 2004	Princeton	Valid until August 2005	Worcester	Valid until July 2005

The Division's Technical Assistance program has helped fund the development of Sterling and Paxton's Open Space Plans. This program has also provided funding to the Boylston and West Boylston for work on their respective Master Plans, which include sections on Open Space and Recreation. MDC/DWM will continue to cooperate with each community in reviewing, implementing and revising their Open Space and Recreation plans.

5. SCORP

EOEA's Division of Conservation Services is also responsible for the development of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). This is a statewide plan that provides policy recommendations for the state as a whole, and suggests key issues at regional levels that should be incorporated into those regional plans. *SCORP 2000* identifies six major issues for all providers of outdoor recreation in the Commonwealth:

Resource Protection, Stewardship, Restoration and Enhancement

At the heart of both active and passive outdoor recreation is an enjoyment of natural resources: clean air, clean water, healthy wildlife, flourishing habitats and vegetation, and scenic vistas. Quality outdoor recreation experiences are dependent on the protection, sound stewardship, restoration and enhancement of these resources, and, in areas where intense urbanization has displaced the natural environment,

reclamation of vacant sites and creative greenway and playground development are needed.

Education and Information

Education and information can and should be an integral part of any strategy to improve the quality of outdoor recreation experiences. Public information and education play a pivotal role in outdoor recreation and must be expanded and tailored to encompass a wide variety of age groups, learning abilities and special needs. Informing the public about recreation sites and opportunities, emphasizing the careful stewardship of natural resource areas, and communicating the health benefits provided by outdoor recreation, all help to ensure the public's long-term enjoyment of, and support for, outdoor recreation.

Partnerships

In today's changing budgetary environment, solutions to all of these SCORP issues can only be realized through creative approaches to programming and protection of recreation resources. Partnership opportunities should be extended to as many partners as possible including both public and private organizations and individuals.

Funding

Resolving most of these SCORP issues depends upon two additional factors: the creativity and vision of the people who devote their professional or personal time to improving and expanding outdoor recreation opportunities, and, equally important, funding. In both the public and private nonprofit sectors, local support for outdoor recreation is essential to ensuring sufficient government funding and charitable donations. Using information to demonstrate an improved quality of life provided by outdoor recreation opportunities or the economic value of public recreation sites to a community can be helpful in broadening and solidifying financial and political support for outdoor recreation.

Access

Outdoor recreation opportunities need to be accessible to all residents regardless of race, color, physical or mental challenges, place of residence, or age. Barriers to use of outdoor resources for recreation and relaxation, including lack of public transportation, physical impediments, and inappropriate or out-dated infrastructure, are all issues that need to be addressed in developing or improving outdoor recreation sites.

Maintenance

To accommodate public need, recreation sites, trails, facilities, beaches, and playgrounds must be well maintained and appropriately staffed on a regular, continuous basis. Failure to do so, even for short-term reasons, can have long-term implications, decrease public safety and support, and adversely impact public recreation experiences. Commitment by the federal, state, and local governments to maintenance of outdoor recreation areas is critical, but creative ways to ensure proper

maintenance levels must also be explored, including adopt-a-trail, adopt-a-park, and other public-private partnerships. (EOEA, 2000)

MDC/DWM recognizes these common issues and has integrated them, where appropriate, into the Wachusett Reservoir Watershed Public Access Plan Update. MDC/DWM's goals and implementation priorities in the Wachusett Reservoir watershed, however, are based on its mission to protect this drinking water supply resource from public access impacts.

K. Monitoring/Program Evaluation

This Public Access Plan Update outlines policy changes in public access management on MDC lands and waters in Wachusett Reservoir watershed. It is important that the Division monitor and evaluate these policies. Legislation requires the Division to update its watershed protection plans on a regular basis (5 year cycles). However, on-going monitoring and evaluation of MDC/DWM access policies should occur in order to ensure a successful watershed protection program.

MDC will maintain a regular monitoring program for its forest roads, access points and reservoir shorelines. This is accomplished primarily through Watershed Ranger patrols and Environmental Assessment activities performed by MDC/DWM Environmental Quality staff. These programs will help identify impacts from public access, particularly illegal dumping and erosion from overuse. MDC will continue to work with volunteers and user groups to assist in such evaluations.

As part of the evaluation of the plan it is important to gain public and user input about the effectiveness of the Plan activities. MDC will work to revive the Wachusett Advisory Committee. Its mission as a forum to review and provide input to the MDC on all of its water protection programs will be valuable to the implementation of this plan. As resources permit, MDC will provide a yearly review of the Plan with a brief report, and, if necessary, a public meeting to gather input on implementation of the plan.

Table 7
Wachusett Reservoir Watershed Public Access Plan Update Implementation Summary

Issue	Implementation Objectives
Structural and Access Controls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replace gates and other barriers where vehicular access can be gained illegally. 2. Install a new lock system on gates. 3. Institute a numbering system for all gates outside the main Reservoir basin. 4. Improve entry points (gates and/or parking): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Route 110 near Campground Road (gate 30 area). b. Route 12/140 near the Railroad Bridge (gate 25). c. Route 140 near MA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (Gate 19). d. Route 70 near Cross Street.
Signs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Install new signs where needed with updated policies, universal symbols, and encourage use of sani-cans. 2. Install kiosks or bulletin boards at major entry points. 3. Install additional kiosks at other parking areas, as resources permit.
Mapping	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and distribute Public Access Map(s) that show locations for hiking, bicycling, hunting and parking. 2. Work with outside interests to produce and distribute a fishing map.

Issue	Implementation Objectives
Enforcement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utilize Wachusett Reservoir Watershed Ranger Staff for patrols. 2. Meet regularly with State Police, Environmental Police and local Police to ensure and enhance coordination on enforcement issues. 3. Ensure that contact numbers of MDC and the State Police are printed on signs and brochures.
Sanitation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate moving existing toilets or providing additional toilets at sites that might receive more use. 2. Prepare feasibility study of the potential use of permanent facilities in selected areas.
Encroachments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor MDC property for encroachments. 2. Coordinate with Natural Resources Section for encroachment resolution.
Specific Site Recommendations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Old Stone Church: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue presence of Rangers. b. Continue to provide Trash Barrels. c. Continue to provide Sani-can. d. Consider providing more permanent toilet facilities. 2. Bob's Hot Dogs: Request MHD to evaluate safety issues at the site and make any needed pedestrian or traffic safety improvements. 3. Rail Trail: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to support the work of Wachusett Greenways where appropriate. b. Continue participation on the Mass Central Rail Trail Task Force. c. Enter into working relationships with similar trail groups where the mission supports MDC/DWM's overall goals. 4. Waushacum Ponds <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Educate users on proper trash disposal and allowed boating uses through Signs and informational materials. b. Support Wachusett Greenways in improving the trail along the old rail bed from Gates Road to the Sterling Millworks, including restoration of pedestrian bridge shoreline erosion. 5. Poutwater Pond: Limit the illegal ATV and snowmobile activity through increased enforcement and barrier placement. 6. Quinapoxet River: Erect signs to clearly define boat take-out at River Rd. turn-off.
Public Education/ Interpretive Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide indirect contact with public via: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Signs. b. Kiosks/Bulletin Boards. c. Pamphlets. d. Maps (see Mapping). e. Website. 2. Provide direct contact with public via: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Watershed Ranger Patrols. b. Guided Hikes and Tours. c. School Programs. d. Public Events.
Partnerships	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foster partnerships with local entities to develop and maintain facilities on MDC land in keeping with MDC/DWM policies and regulations. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Wachusett Greenways – Rail Trail. b. Stewardship programs.
Open Space Coordination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain communication and coordinate when possible with other owners of open space in the watershed, including: DEM, DFWELE, Non-profit and other private landowners, and watershed communities. 2. Continue to integrate common issues raised in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
Monitoring/Program Evaluation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain a regular monitoring program for MDC/DWM forest roads, access points and reservoir shorelines. 2. Revive the Wachusett Advisory Committee as a forum to review and provide input to the MDC on all of its water protection programs in the watershed. 3. Provide a yearly review of the plan and, if necessary, a public meeting to gather input on implementation of the plan.